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NORTH KOREA: Military Contingency Measures

North Korea apparently undertook some military contingency measures following the death of South Korean President Pak Chong-hui on 26 October. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Pyongyang is probably watching for signs of serious political instability in the South. Even if such signs develop, other factors will have an important effect on how the North might attempt to influence the situation. [REDACTED]

Most important is Pyongyang's perception of the strength of the US commitment to defend South Korea. The North will also weigh the capabilities and the readiness of South Korean troops and the likely reactions of China and the USSR, both of which have made clear their desire to avoid increasing tensions on the Korean Peninsula. [REDACTED]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

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8 November 1979